

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /092 W

-----063862 251323Z /46

R 231002Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0355

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 4993

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, US, SG

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL ON PRIME MINISTER DIOUF

1. PRIME MINISTER DIOUF RECEIVED AMBASSADOR COHEN AT 1800, JULY 22 FOR COURTESY CALL FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR EARLIER SAME DAY. DCM ACCOMPANIED.

2. PRIME MINISTER SPOKE WARMLY OF RELATIONS WITH US AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVES ON SOUTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. HE SAID IN BOTH INSTANCES PRESIDENT CARTER WAS APPROACHING THESE PROBLEMS GLOBALLY, I.E. AS THEY SHOULD BE APPROACHED.

3. SPEAKING OF INTERNAL SENEGALESE AFFAIRS, PRIME MINISTER DIOUF SAID ONE OF HIS BIGGEST CONCERNS WAS TENDENCY OF SENEGALESE BUREAUCRACY TO GROW HEAVIER AND MORE PONDEROUS AS COUNTRY DEVELOPED. WHEN AMBASSADOR MENTIONED "LE MAL FRANCAIS", DIOUF SAID THAT IT HAD BECOME "LE MAL SENEGALAIS". HE
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REMINDED AMBASSADOR, HOWEVER, THAT IF EVER HE EXPERIENCED ANY DELAYS WITHIN THE GOS HE SHOULD CONTACT PM'S OFFICE IMMEDIATELY.

4. ON A QUICK TOUR D'HORIZON OF AFRICA AND ITS PROBLEMS DIOUF SAID HE SAW LITTLE CHANCE OF COMPROMISE ON POLISARIO/ SAHARA ISSUE COMING OUT OF PROJECTED CONFERENCE IN LUSAKA IN OCTOBER. HE DESCRIBED ETHIOPIA, LIBYA AND ALGERIA AS

THE THREE MOST DANGEROUS COUNTRIES ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.
ETHIOPIA BECAUSE OF ITS MARXIST ORIENTATION AND SOVIET
INFLUENCE; LIBYA BECAUSE QADHAFI WAS TOTALLY UNPREDICTABLE?
(DIOUF TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT QADHAFI ONCE TRIED TO
CONVERT HIM, DIOUF, ALREADY A MOSLEM, TO ISLAM)
AND ALGERIA BECAUSE OF ITS DESIGNS ON THE EX-SPANISH
SAHARA AND MAURITANIA. HE SAW SOMALIA MOVING AWAY FROM
USSR AND BEHAVING IN "QUITE A RESPONSIBLE MANNER."
LIBYA'S CONTINUING TERRITORIAL ENCROACHMENTS ON CHAD WERE
MOST SERIOUS MATTER AND SOMETHING WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE
TO BOLSTER CHAD'S ABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF.

5. PRIME MINISTER DIOUF IMPRESSED AMBASSADOR WITH QUICK
MIND, GOOD GRASP OF DETAILS AND AT SAME TIME INTELLIGENT
AND THOUGHTFUL OVERVIEW OF AFRICAN ISSUES. IN PUBLIC
MEETINGS HE SOMETIMES GIVES IMPRESSION OF GANGLY, AWKWARD
SCHOOLBOY, BUT UP CLOSE HE IS RELAXED AND CONFIDENT.
COHEN

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NNN

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